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BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY

ANNUAL REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1960

DAVENTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Telephone:
Daventry 60/61

Health Dept.,
Moot Hall,
DAVENTRY,
Northants.

To His Worship the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors
of the Borough of Daventry.

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the town incorporating that of the Public Health Inspector, and once again it is my duty to present an assessment of the health of the town.

This cannot be estimated from statistical information alone, as the full mental and physical well-being of a community presents many intangible factors. However, the basis for good health is now being well laid since virtually a new town with good houses, a new school, new places of work and the means for healthy recreation is emerging. It is to be hoped that with abundant physical health, full employment, and leisure well used a spirit as fine as the environment will be engendered here.

An indication that this hope is becoming a reality already is shown by the actions of the citizens, who by their own efforts have raised a large sum towards the building of a swimming pool for the town.

The statistics are satisfactory - showing an expanding town with a population increase of from 5290 last year to 5600 this year. Once again this is mainly due to industrial growth.

There is an increase of 33 in the Birth Rate on last year. The Crude Rate being 24.6 (Standardised Rate 23.8) and is in advance of the national figure of 17.1.

There were 76 deaths during the year, and this shows a fall of 17 on last year's figure giving a Crude Rate of 13.6 and a Standardised Rate of 8.7, which is well below the national figure of 11.5. The high Crude Rate being due to the presence in the town of an institution for the aged. Once again the deaths show a preponderance of those diseases which occur in the more elderly members of the community, the diseases of heart and circulation and the cancers and a decline of deaths from infectious disease.

There were however 8 deaths from pneumonia and 4 from bronchitis, these deaths occurring for the most part as terminal events in the elderly or in those persons whose health had already been undermined from other causes. There is one melancholy death in an infant from tuberculous meningitis, also another from infection at one year, details of which are given later in the report.

There was a marked decline in the notification of infectious disease, and only twelve cases of Sonne dysentery were notified as compared with the large number last year. These were all isolated cases and no outbreak occurred. I am happy to report that all schools are now equipped with an adequate number of wash-hand basins and provided with paper towels.

The campaign against poliomyelitis proceeded and large numbers received vaccination. No cases are reported. There was a decline in acceptance of smallpox vaccination, and the possibility of the introduction of this disease by air transport must always be remembered. Parents are earnestly requested to have their infants vaccinated. I am however, happy to report that there has been an excellent response to diphtheria immunisation and that there is a considerable increase in the numbers receiving both primary and booster infections. Both parents and doctors are to be congratulated. The figures for Daventry are the highest in the county.

Throughout the year building operations have continued and 30 dwellings were completed by the Borough Council; 16 being built for Industrial Expansion purposes and the remaining 14 in connection with the slum clearance programme. The rate of private house building was the highest ever recorded and amounted to 61 houses and bungalows completed during the year. Good progress continued in slum clearance and 12 condemned houses were demolished.

For many years the discharge of a bad sewage effluent has been a serious health problem but this has now been overcome by building a complete new sewage treatment works. Samples of the effluent from these new works were examined and found to be very satisfactory.

In conclusion thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector, and all who contributed in any way towards the compilation of this report, to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for help and encouragement, and to the County Medical Officer of Health for details of preventive measures against infectious diseases.

JOAN M. ST. V. DAWKINS,
Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1961.

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B O R O U G H O F D A V E N T R Y

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Councillor Mrs. L.F. Borton (Chairman)

Aldermen W.G.S. Edwards, G. Williams

Councillors W.G. Tatcher, J.E. Lodge, T.R. Webb, J.K. Price,
L.E. Whitmee

Public Health Officers of the Borough of Daventry:

Joan M. St. V. Dawkins, M.B.B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

Also holds the appointment of

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Brixworth Rural District Council

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health

and

County School Medical Officer

G.N. Schofield, R.S.I.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Inspector

Certified Inspector of Meat and Foods,
Shops Act Inspector,
Petroleum Officer.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1960

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	3,633
Population	...	...	...	5,600
Number of separate dwellings occupied	...	...	...	1,847
Rateable Value 1960 (April) ..	...	...	...	£94,065
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£381. 0. 8d.

LIVE BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 estimated population)

	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate E & W
Legitimate	56	79	135		17.1
Illegitimate	2	1	3		
	58	80	138	24.6	
				(SR. 23.8)	

STILL BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 live and still births)

1	-	1	7.2	19.7
---	---	---	-----	------

Total Live and Still Births

Male	Female	Total
59	80	139

INFANT DEATHS

	Male	Female		
Total	2	2	29.0	21.7
Legitimate	2	2		
Illegitimate	-	-		

<u>INFANT MORTALITY:</u> (Rate per 1000 live births)	Total	29.0
" " " " " "	Legitimate	29.0
" " " " " "	Illegitimate	Nil

NEONATAL (1st 4 weeks) Male Female

Total	1	-	7.2	15.6
Legitimate	1	-	7.2	
Illegitimate	-	-	Nil	

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	2%
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	...	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live births & still births	...	Nil .39

<u>DEATHS</u> (all causes)	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate E & W
	37	39	76	13.6	11.5
				(SR. 8.7)	

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1.

MORTALITY TABLE 1960

Cause of Death			Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	1	-	1
Syphilitic disease	...	...	-	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases			-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		...	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	-	-
Diabetes	...	...	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system		...	6	9	15
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	4	3	7
Hypertension with heart disease		...	-	-	-
Other heart disease	...	...	4	7	11
Other circulatory disease	...	...	1	1	2
Influenza	...	...	-	-	-
Pneumonia	...	...	4	4	8
Bronchitis	...	...	3	1	4
Other disease of respiratory system		...	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		...	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		...	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	...	...	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases			4	2	6
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	1	1
All other accidents	...	...	1	-	1
Suicide	...	...	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war		...	-	-	-
TOTALS			37	39	76

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS OVER PREVIOUS 5 YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
		No.	Crude Rate	Under 1 year		All ages	
				No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1956	4580	86	18.77	3	34.88	67	14.63
1957	4870	83	17.04	2	24.09	70	14.37
1958	5040	96	19.05	1	10.4	94	18.6
1959	5290	105	19.8	2	19.0	93	17.6
1960	5600	138	24.6 (S.R. 23.8)	4	29.0	76	13.6 (S.R. 8.7)

SECTION A

Natural and Social Conditions

AREA

The acreage of the Town is 3,633 and the population is now 5,600.

Daventry is one of the Ancient Boroughs and received its first charter from Queen Elizabeth I in 1576. For many years Daventry was a prosperous market town, with its wide rural boundaries and its central, although rather cramped, urban area. It was a busy coaching centre, and the latter provided its main industry, that of whip making. With the disappearance of the coach, employment was provided by the boot and shoe industry and later by addition of the B.B.C. Transmitting Station at Borough Hill.

The character of the town is now changing. Since 1953/54 when a large tapered roller bearing factory of British Timken was established to the North of the Town, there has been steady increase of population. The old town still remains, but what is virtually a new town with its well spaced modern dwellings, is arising to the North and South. Further industrial expansion and development is expected, and a new era of progress and prosperity is anticipated for the town.

POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population in 1960, calculated by the Registrar General, was 5,600 representing an increase of 310 on the 1959 figure. Natural increase, excess of births over deaths, was calculated to be 62, the difference being due mainly to movement into the town in connection with industrial expansion.

DEATHS

76 deaths compared with 93 for the previous year, gave a crude rate of 13.6 compared with 17.6 for 1959. (S.R. 8.7).

There has been a decline of 17 in the number of deaths, though the population of the town has increased. The majority of new residents to the town are of the younger age groups.

Once again nearly half the deaths were caused by diseases of the heart and circulation making a total of 35 deaths. 7 from coronary artery disease, 15 from vascular lesion of the nervous system and 11 from other heart disease. A further 14 deaths arose from cancer, 4 of whom had cancer of the lung, all males.

Thus the pattern of death largely from the older age groups and therefore from disease of degeneration and neoplastic conditions continues. Arterial disease may however, attack earlier in some than others as evidenced by the mounting toll of coronary and other arterial disease in males, often in the prime of life. The causes of arterial disease still elude us. Factors which may contribute to its

early incidence may include lack of exercise, excess of diet, stress, smoking and hereditary factors. Men no longer labours to produce his food, and his working life is often sedentary.

The causes of cancer, of which there were 14 deaths, remain also unsolved. Cancer education and the recognition of early symptoms with their prompt diagnosis and treatment may however save many lives.

The respiratory infections still take their toll though less than formerly. This year there were no deaths from influenza compared with 11 last year, but 8 died from pneumonia and 4 from bronchitis and 1 from other respiratory disease. The great majority of deaths from pneumonia are in those whose health is already undermined by other causes and is as such only a terminal event. One infant aged 1 year died from a fulminating streptococcal infection, and was found dead before treatment could be started. There was one death from tuberculosis in an infant, details of which are included in the section on infectious disease.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 138 giving a rate of 24.6 (S.R. 23.8) per thousand live births, which was higher than that of 1959 when 105 births occurred. The national rate of 17.1 is far exceeded in Daventry.

INFANT DEATHS

4 infants died, 1 was under 4 weeks of age.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

Neonatal (1st 4 weeks)

Atelectasis)
Prematurity) 1 Day

1 - 12 months

Infective Hepatitis 1 month
Acute Upper Respiratory Infection due to
Haemolytic streptococcus 1 year.
Tuberculous meningitis 7 months.

STILLBIRTHS

1 stillbirth was recorded during the year

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

3 illegitimate births took place during the year, 2 less than in 1959.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Service

LABORATORY SERVICE

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service is available for work in connection with the diagnosis and control on Infectious Diseases. It is situated adjacent to Northampton General Hospital. The co-operation and able service which is always provided is greatly appreciated.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

General medical surgical and infectious disease cases are moved by units of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, acting as agents for the County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held in the Abbey Buildings on the third Friday of each month.

A Permanent Dental clinic has been established at the Secondary Modern School and regular sessions are held.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis After-Care Committee continued to serve both the Borough and the surrounding Rural District.

Since August 1955 a chest clinic service has been instituted at fortnightly intervals at the Danetre Hospital, and continues to be of great service to local patients.

NURSING AT HOME

Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives are provided by the County Council. The services of a permanent full time health visitor, resident in the town was once more established after an interval of approximately 2 years during which time the town was covered by health visitors from other districts.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This Service is also provided by the County Council, and is of particular value both in illness and for old people who may with the assistance of a home help remain at home rather than be sent to an institution.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

All infectious disease cases, excepting only Tuberculosis sufferers, are Treated at Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton, while general medical and surgical cases receive treatment at Danetre Hospital, Northampton General Hospital or Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby.

WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE

Darby & Joan Club

Meetings of this Club which is run voluntarily by the W.V.S. were held every Friday afternoon and were well attended, and very popular. During the year various outings have been arranged to places of interest, and other clubs. A garden party is also held annually.

Thanks are expressed to Ladies of this Organisation who by their service do so much to help the old people.

National Assistance Act 1947 Sec. 47 (Amendment 1951)

No action was necessary under this Act during the year.

SERVICES FOR OLD PEOPLE

The following provide services for old people:-

1. The National Health Service

(a) General Practitioner Service

(b) Hospital and Specialist Services including the Almoner Service.

2. The County Council

(a) The Health Department

1. District Nurses

2. Health Visitors.

3. Home Helps

4. Chiropody Service

5. Certain home equipment where necessary

(b) The Welfare Department

1. Part III accommodation and homes

2. Special services for Blind etc., and home fittings where necessary.

3. The National Assistance Board

Financial help where necessary.

4. The District Council

Homes for the Aged, Flats and in some cases Flatlets with Warden Supervision.

5. Voluntary Organisations

These are many and services vary in different areas. They include Holiday schemes in which old people are taken on seaside holidays in off season times. The Darby and Joan Clubs. "Meals on Wheels" Service, and Home Visiting. The Womens Voluntary Service very often undertake many of the above duties, while in other areas local voluntary Committees run the various organisations. The Rural Communities Council together with the Old Peoples Welfare Committee provide co-operation between the various services.

Your Medical Officer of Health having a special interest in the welfare of the aged and by virtue of her appointment both to the District and the County Council and by her relationship with other Medical colleagues endeavours to fulfil the function of co-operation and co-ordination between these many agencies. Many cases of breakdown can be prevented by early application of these services.

Voluntary organisations have also requested that your Medical Officer should give lectures and talks and each invitation received is accepted and fulfilled.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

WATER SUPPLY

The responsibility for the town's water supply is in the hands of the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board. The supply was very satisfactorily maintained both in respect to quality and quantity. The source of the water was Pitsford reservoir. This water was pumped approximately 12 miles through mains to the Borough Hill storage reservoir, which now has a storage capacity of $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons, and thence to the town.

The water was moderately hard being measured at 120 part per million degrees hardness. Samples were taken each month by the Water Board's Staff and results showed a pure supply. Slight traces of iron were also found in the water when examined, however, the water is not subject to plumbo-solvent action and therefore, not liable to contamination by use of lead piping.

Nearly all the dwellings within the Borough have a piped supply direct into the houses and most of the farm properties on the outskirts of the district have now connections to the main water supply.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Suitable treatment of premises where certain infectious diseases or verminous conditions occurred was carried out when necessary. Very good results were obtained by the use of liquid and powder spraying in dealing with trouble from insect pests.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Practically the whole of the town is served by the main sewer excepting a small number of isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the area. The latter are nearly all provided with individual septic tanks.

The new sewage disposal works were brought into use 18 months ago and have continued to operate very satisfactorily. The results of samples of effluent analysed have reached the level required by the Nene River Board for discharge into the Welton Road reservoir. The present works were designed to deal with the sewage waste for a town of 6,000 population and it will be seen that this figure will be reached in the next few years if the town continues to expand, thus necessitating the enlargement of the disposal plant.

In addition the older sewers leading to the works are carrying a high volume of sewage due mainly to increased house building on sites throughout the town. Some of these sewers will have to be enlarged to cope with the expected increase in flow and it is urged that this matter be dealt with as speedily as possible.

RODENT CONTROL

One part time rodent operator was engaged on these duties and he continued to carry out his work in a highly satisfactory manner. In addition to the free service provided for treatment against rats and mice at domestic premises, the baiting of sewers was carried out. Certain factory premises were also being treated under contract arrangement with the Borough Council.

The following is a summary of the infestations treated during the year, i.e.

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
Dwellinghouses	48	49
Business Premises	2	2
Local Authority	6	4
Agricultural	1	1

REFUSE COLLECTION

Weekly collections of refuse were maintained from all dwellings within the town. The refuse was removed to the Dodford Road tip but this tip which had been in use for some 6-7 years was filled during the early part of the year. For a while the Council had no other site of its own for the disposal of refuse and was fortunate in being able to use the tip belonging to the Rural Council. I am glad to report that an alternative site was found and this has since been used.

Special attention is given to the destruction of rats where refuse is tipped and also to control fly breeding.

The Council has now issued a total of 66 dustbins to properties under the Municipal Dustbin Scheme which came into operation in 1954. An annual charge of 7s.6d. is made for each bin supplied.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Five licences were granted permitting caravans to be stationed within the Borough. These were all sited in separate parts of the district and periodic inspection was made of these dwellings.

The new Caravan Sites Act came into operation during August, 1960. The object of this new legislation was to control the Caravan sites so as to prevent their being located in unsuitable places and also to improve conditions on sites.

As a result a new code of requirements was drawn up by the Public Health Committee and these became operative on all the sites where caravans were in use. The overall effect of this new Act should be to bring about a more uniform set of conditions for sites throughout the country, thus obviating confusion between manufacturers, caravan occupiers, owners of sites and local authorities as to what may or may not constitute a satisfactory caravan site.

PETROLEUM REGULATION ACTS 1928-1936

19 installations were licensed by the Council for storage of petroleum spirit under the above regulations. At premises where inflammable liquids are stored routine inspections are carried out so as to secure the highest possible standard of fire safety. Some of the older tanks were tested. One underground storage tank was found to leak and its use was discontinued forthwith, in addition steps were taken to render the tanks safe from any danger of inflammable vapour.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

At present there is no public swimming bath in the town and the nearest is situated 12 miles away at Northampton.

Since the Daventry & District Swimming Pool Association was formed three years ago a total of £12,000 has been raised towards the cost of a swimming pool at Daventry. Meetings were held with the Borough Council and by the end of the year plans were well in hand to build an open air pool on a site between the town and the Braunston Road housing estate. Great credit is due to all who have made this project possible in so short a period. An amenity of this nature gives every youngster a chance to learn to swim and is therefore, a means of saving lives while at the same time affording a very healthy exercise.

SECTION D

HOUSING

The rate of house building was high and 30 houses and flats were completed by the Council.

The figure for private building however, surpassed this number and reached a total of 61; the highest number ever recorded in one year. 16 of the dwellings completed by the Council were the remaining part of a scheme comprising 100 dwellings for housing families coming into the town under the Industrial Expansion programme to work for British Timken Ltd. 14 dwellings were built for local needs in connection with slum clearance.

A further 26 dwellings became vacant during the 12 months and these were let to applicants on the housing register. The number of persons applying for accommodation has remained at approximately the same level over the past 3 years and shows the lowest figures since the war. There are however, indications that the number is now rising and this is due in no small measure to the fact that some of the children who came with the first families to settle in the town in 1955 have now grown up, married, and wish to live in homes of their own. It would appear that this demand for houses will continue to grow side by side with Industrial development and the present encroachment of land may make it necessary to build at a greater density if housing is to be provided on an economical basis.

A total of 9 applications were received for Improvement Grants and all were approved. 5 of these were for the simplified standard type of grant which have only recently become available.

Good progress was made in relation to slum clearance and a total of 12 houses were demolished. When the Public Health Committee formulated the Slum Clearance programme in 1955 it was planned to deal with 10 unfit properties each year. Although there is much outstanding work still to be done in this field, a total of 56 condemned houses have been demolished during the first five years of the programme.

There is still an urgent need for more bungalows for older persons and efforts are now being made to meet such demand. It is hoped that schemes to provide this type of accommodation will be speedily carried out. The modernisation of the pre-war Council houses still remains to be undertaken. The impression gained from new tenants moving into some of these houses during recent years is that they would like to have the benefit of improved facilities.

HOUSING STATISTICS

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

By the Local Authority	...	...
By other Bodies or Persons	...	...

Houses	Flats
26	4
60	1

I INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

1	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses inspected for Public Health or Housing Act defects	...	...	162
	(b)	Number of Inspections made	...	...	395
2		Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense:-			
	(a)	Number scheduled in original Slum Clearance programme 1955	...	...	117
	(b)	Number dealt with 1955-1960	...	...	56
	(c)	Total unfit houses remaining at 31/12/60			61

II HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance areas

- (1) Houses unfit for human habitation
- (2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.
- (3) Houses on land acquired under Sec.43 (2) Housing Act, 1957

Not in clearance areas

- (4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec.16 or Sec.17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 ...
- (5) Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health

- HOUSES DEMOLISHED	DISPLACED during year	
	Persons	Families
Nil	Nil	Nil
-	-	-
-	-	-
12	24	10
-	3	1

	HOUSES DEMOLISHED	DISPLACED during year	
		Persons	Families
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts. ...	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in unfitness orders ...	-	-	-
III <u>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</u>			
(8) Under Sec.16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-	-
(9) Under Sec.17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Sec.18 Housing Acts, 1957 ...	-	-	-

IV UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal Action by local authority ...	59	-
(12a) After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts	1	1
(12b) Sec.9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957 ...	3	-

V UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

NIL

VI PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT (IN CLEARANCE AREAS)

NIL

VII HOUSING ACT 1957 PART IV - OVERCROWDING

1 (a) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at end of year ...	2
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	4

1	(c) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	17
2	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported	4
3	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	4
	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	17
4	Number of cases in which dwellinghouses became overcrowded again after Local Authority had taken steps to abate same ...	Nil

RENT ACT, 1957

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair ...	Nil
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IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(a) Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

Number of applications for Discretionary Grants ...	4
Approved by local authority ...	4

(b) House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Number of applications for Standard Grants ...	5
Approved by local authority ...	5

SECTION E

Inspection & Supervision of Food & Drink

Routine inspections of all shops and premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale were carried out during the year. As a result of informal action certain improvements were made to some of these premises to bring them up to the standard laid down by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Only one small private slaughterhouse was licensed by the Council and these premises closed down during the year. The report on slaughterhouse facilities as required by Section 3 Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. The report indicated that with the exception of the premises referred to the whole of the meat supplies come from slaughterhouses outside the Borough. The Council had reviewed the slaughtering facilities available and considered the present arrangements adequate to meet the needs of the six butchers trading in the town. It was felt that should the population reach 12,000 as envisaged within the next 10 years, then it may be desirable to have a modern slaughterhouse in the town.

Regular visits were made to premises where ice cream was sold and in addition inspections were carried out of vehicles used for sale of ice cream. No ice cream was manufactured locally.

Licences were issued to three milk retailers to supply pasteurized, tuberculin and sterilized milk within the area. Two shops were also registered for the sale of bottled milk.

I am once again pleased to include in my report details of samples of food taken in the Borough by the Staff of the Northamptonshire County Council. These are listed below:-

Milk	12
Butter	1
Ice Cream	1
Cream Sponge	1
Apples	1
Potatoes	2
Marmalade	1
Mayonnaise	1
Medicines	3
Toffee	1
Whisky	1
Pork Pies	3
	<hr/>
Total	28
	<hr/>

For the eighth year in succession the foods sampled in the town have been found to be entirely satisfactory.

In addition 1,826 articles of food were checked for weight or measure during the year. Of this number 9 loaves of bread and 22 pre-packed articles were found to be incorrect but all the deficiencies were small and were dealt with by advice to the traders concerned.

A small amount of tinned food-stuffs was submitted for condemnation by local traders and this was dealt with by the Public Health Inspector.

The following animals were slaughtered at the only private slaughterhouse situated within the Borough (premises closed during year).

<u>Animals</u>	<u>Number</u>
Sheep and lambs	26

SECTION F

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

There was a very marked decline in the notification of infectious disease, the number falling from 213 to 119. The high incidence last year was due to the outbreak in the summer months of Sonne dysentery. This year there were only 12 cases, all of which were isolated.

Disease	Male	Female	Total	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	-	3	3	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	2	1	3	-
Measles	51	46	97	-
Dysentery	4	8	12	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	2	3	-
" other forms	1	-	1	1
TOTAL	59	60	119	1

Measles 97 cases were notified. This disease like scarlet fever is now largely following a more benign course. Infectivity remains still very high and few attain adult life without suffering from the disease. Occasional complications such as pneumonia, ear and eye infections do still occur especially in those whose resistance was low at the time of infection.

Scarlet Fever 3 cases. This disease continues in its mild phase.

Food Poisoning No cases were notified.

Smallpox A total of 79 vaccinations were performed a fall on last years figure of 99. As there were 138 births, it is probable that only just under 60% of infants are receiving primary vaccination in the town. This decline in acceptance of vaccination is a cause for some disquiet. Modern air transport may introduce smallpox into a community and with many susceptibles can result in an outbreak. Parents are earnestly requested to have their infants vaccinated.

Diphtheria

No cases have occurred.

A total of 120 diphtheria immunisations were made compared with 115 last year and shows a high acceptance rate. There has also been a very gratifying increase in the number of booster immunisations showing a rise of from 36 to 105. Both public and doctors are to be congratulated on these figures and the hope is expressed that this high rate will be maintained. There have been small outbreaks of diphtheria in the county during the year and in almost all cases there had either been no immunisation or failure to accept the booster injections.

The triple vaccine which contains diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus (lockjaw) immunisation was introduced by the County Council this year. This inoculation is carried out early in infancy, thereby helping to prevent some of the most distressing cases of whooping cough, those which occur in very young infants. Early inoculation however should be followed by reinforcing doses as the duration of immunity to the first doses is limited.

Sonne Dysentery There were 12 cases. This was a very marked decline in incidence compared with the high figure of 105 cases last year. All these cases were isolated and no outbreaks followed. Great care is taken with early cases in order to prevent spread of infection. The schools are now all provided with an adequate number of wash-hand basins and paper towels. Last year it was considered that the source of the continued spread of Sonne dysentery was probably the primary school.

Details of immunisation and vaccination for the year 1960

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary	17	30	13	3	4	67
Re-vaccination -	-	-	-	1	11	12

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>15 and over</u>	<u>Third Inj's. All ages</u>
20	79	14	2	1	8	8	132	518	836

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria Immunisation only	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	48
Combined Dip/Whoop.	27	4	3	-	-	-	-	34	40
Triple	77	2	2	1	1	2	-	85	17
 Total Diphtheria Immunisations	 105	 6	 5	 1	 1	 2	 -	 120	 105
 Whooping Cough only	 3	 1	 -	 1	 -	 -	 -	 5	 -

Number of Children who have completed a full
Course of Diphtheria Immunisation

<u>Age at 31.12.60 i.e. Born in year</u>	<u>Under 1 1960</u>	<u>1 1959</u>	<u>2 1958</u>	<u>3 1957</u>	<u>4 1956</u>	<u>5-9 1951- 1955</u>	<u>10-14 1946- 1950</u>	<u>Total Under 1</u>
Number Immunised	63	103	95	90	94	321	267	1033

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 4 new cases, 3 in adults all in the age group 25-35. The fourth case was in an infant who died at the age of 7 months of tuberculous meningitis. The father was a case of tuberculosis who moved into the district and who was not known to the authorities locally until the infant contracted the disease. When all infants who are contacts of tuberculous persons can receive B.C.G. it is sad to record this death. It is also a melancholy reflection in this day, that individuals who contract this disease can still fail to realise that the condition is an infection that can be transmitted, and that follow up and regular attendance at chest clinics, so adequately and freely provided throughout the county, continues to remain a necessity.

Age and Sex distribution of new cases and deaths 1960

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 plus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	-

Cases on Register at 31st December 1960

Designation	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Other	Pulmonary	Other	
Notified in 1960	1	1	2	-	4
Inward Transfers	1	-	-	-	1
Deaths	-	1	-	-	1
Removals	-	-	-	-	-
Remaining	20	3	16	1	40

SECTION G

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I - Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories with Mechanical Power	31	47	3	-
(ii) Factories without Mechanical Power	14	10	1	-
(iii) Other premises under Act (excluding outworkers' premises)	12	17	1	-
	57	74	5	Nil

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Prosecution
	Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Insp.	Ref. by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (except outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
	6	6	-	-	Nil

PART VIII - Outworkers

Number of outworkers registered during the year ... 2

In these two cases the work was in connection with the making of wearing apparel (i.e. Boot & Shoe trade). Both premises were suitable for the carrying out of such work.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS DURING THE YEAR

Housing:

No. of inspections made	...	...	395
Overcrowding	...	...	12
Drainage, W.Cs. Sinks etc.	...	...	92
Miscellaneous housing Visits	...	...	46
Food and Drugs and ancillary provisions	...	...	71
Food - Inspection and Condemnation	...	...	27
Slaughterhouse visits	...	...	4
Shops	...	...	16
Petroleum Licensing and Supervision	...	...	44
Refuse Collection	...	...	17
Refuse Disposal	...	...	7
Verminous Premises and Infestations	...	...	6
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	...	...	73
Pig keeping and other animal complaints	...	...	21
Nuisances	...	...	19
Public Conveniences	...	...	11
Theatres, Hotels and Places of Entertainment	...	...	14
Rodent Control	...	...	106
Schools	...	...	10
Temporary Dwellings	...	...	16
Interviews and Visits to Housing Applicants and Tenants of Council Houses	401
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			1,408
			<hr/>

